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TO: Members of the Estimates Production Board

FROM: Chief, D/Pub

SUBJECT: Proposal for establishing the ORE Reports series

1. D/Pub proposes that the EPB, in order to (a) provide a vehicle for the dissemination of CIA reports which are dominantly factual and non-analytic, and (b) mark a clear distinction between such reports and CIA national intelligence estimates, take the following action:
 - a. Approve the division of the present ORE Series into ORE Estimates and ORE Reports with appropriate designations and covers for each series;
 - b. Review and approve the following descriptive definitions of the two series.
2. ORE Estimates are national intelligence estimates which:
 - a. Deal with developments having a significant relationship to US national security and strategic interests;
 - b. Assess all the significant aspects of a situation or development and analyze their cumulative impact on US security;
 - c. Address themselves to the attention of the President, the members of the NSC, and the policy-planning levels of the US Government.

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- d. Make an unequivocal forecast of the maximum range consistent with the problem;
 - e. Contain no more factual information than is required for support of the analysis and estimate.
3. ORE Reports are intelligence reports which:
- a. Present factual, statistical, or technical information which relates to US security or strategic interests and is essential for the daily operations of US action and intelligence agencies;
 - b. Contain information of common concern which is either available in its entirety only to CIA or not readily available in other form;
 - c. Contain sufficient interpretation and analysis to make the information readily understandable and usable to those who are not experts in the field in question;
 - d. Contain factual or specific estimates of limited scope which follow logically from the presentation of such information.

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18 January 1950

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

Chief, Transportation Division, ORE

Terms of Reference for ORE Issuances

1. EPB Notice No. 2-50 directed the undersigned and the Chief, D/Pub, to "prepare a statement of terms of reference covering such publications as a proposed new series of issuances for consideration of the EPB". Although the possibility of a joint approach was raised by me with the Chief, D/Pub, no discussion of the matter has followed. I was informed that D/Pub was drawing up its own proposals in this regard, but have not seen these proposals.

2. D/Tr has recommended on several occasions that consideration be given to a separate series of ORE issuances to cover studies which have a special character distinct from the Estimate type of study. It appears, however, that it is not feasible to draft terms of reference for such a special series until the terms of reference covering the Estimates themselves have been established. To exclude all economic and transportation studies does not seem advisable, as many of these studies are clearly in the Estimates category.

3. It is therefore recommended that consideration first be given to the basic question of whether an arbitrary distinction should be made between the so-called Estimates and the specialized studies, and that the drafting of terms of reference for any special series be postponed until it has been decided that the separation is appropriate and the terms of reference for the estimates themselves have been issued.

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Enclosure #2 to EPB Notice 3-50

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